

24 January 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director for Operations
Deputy Director for Intelligence
NIO for Counterintelligence
Chief, Counterterrorism Group, IAD

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: NSDD on Combatting Terrorism

I have just read the 21 January draft of the NSDD on Combatting Terrorism. I will be involved in a discussion of this subject at an NSPG on Thursday which is likely to be reflected in the final draft of the NSDD. On that occasion I should have whatever preliminary ideas and information is developed to enhance collection, including "a prioritized list of those terrorist organizations which are most threatening to us and an assessment on their potential vulnerabilities." Since the major response to terrorist threats is likely to be an exercise in efforts against states which sponsor them, we should have a quick summary of the vulnerability study done against Syria, Libya, Cuba, Iran, and the others.

I would like a quick review of the relative capabilities and likely availability of friendly security services for preemptive neutralization of terrorist groups, including any identification available of those terrorist groups which other services are in the best position to reach. At NSC yesterday General Vessey expressed the view that the British and the Germans have the best such capability and Rumsfeld spoke up for the French, but then too, there are the Israelis, Italians, Jordanians and others.

Then too, I want to see a draft of the new Finding on combatting terrorism which I understand is in circulation.

Also, I would like preliminary thinking on milestones and attainable time objectives in an effort to launch an effective campaign to combat terrorist activities as soon as practicable.

Finally, early thoughts would also be appreciated on procedures for improved dissemination of terrorist warning, which the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense would be required to initiate in coordination with the DCI, in the implementation of this proposed Directive.

William J. Casey

NSC review completed.

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January 21, 1984

SENSITIVEMEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE GEORGE P. SHULTZ
The Secretary of StateTHE HONORABLE DONALD T. REGAN
The Secretary of TreasuryTHE HONORABLE CASPAR W. WEINBERGER
The Secretary of DefenseTHE HONORABLE WILLIAM FRENCH SMITH
The Attorney GeneralTHE HONORABLE DAVID A. STOCKMAN
The Director, Office of Management and BudgetTHE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CASEY
The Director of Central IntelligenceGENERAL JOHN W. VESSEY, JR.
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of StaffSUBJECT: National Security Decision Directive (NSDD) on
Combatting Terrorism (U)

Attached at Tab A is a draft National Security Decision Directive designed to implement the President's guidance that we improve our capabilities for combatting terrorism. It is requested that you review the attached draft and provide comments/concurrence to your representative of the Terrorist Incident Working Group (TIWG). The TIWG will convene on January 25, 1984, in preparation for an NSPG endorsement of the document prior to Presidential signature. (TS)

FOR THE PRESIDENT:


Robert C. McFarlane

Attachment

Tab A - Draft National Security Decision Directive (NSDD) on
Combatting TerrorismCIA TS 840083
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